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EDUCATION

1982-1985 University of Technology, Aachen. B.Sc. in Civil Engineering, 1985.
1985-1988 University of Technology, Aachen. M.Sc. in Water Resources, Hydraulic Engineering, Soil and Rock Mechanics, 1988.
1989-1994 University of Technology, Aachen. Ph.D. in Subsurface Hydrology, 1994.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Subsurface hydrology with emphasis on fluid, gas, solute and heat transport in complex subsurface systems. Current work includes:

- Hydrological and geological evaluations of deep radionuclide waste disposal sites
- Risk assessment of geologic repositories for radioactive waste
- Temperature-driven flow and transport processes in geologic repositories for radioactive waste (experiments and predictive modeling)
- Assessment of CO₂ sequestration in deep geological formations (leakage pathways, impact on groundwater, geomechanical changes, basin-scale evaluations)
- Groundwater remediation

CURRENT POSITION AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Since 2015 Senior Scientist, Earth Sciences Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)
Since 2014 Deputy Director, Earth Sciences Division, LBNL
Since 2008 Program Lead, Nuclear Energy and Waste, Earth Sciences Division, LBNL
2001 - 2015 Staff Scientist, Earth Sciences Division, LBNL
1999 - 2001 Chief Engineer and Project Manager, Construction of the New International Airport in Dusseldorf, HOCHTIEF AG, Germany
1994 - 1998 Geological Scientist, Earth Sciences Division, LBNL
1989 - 1994 Research Associate (since 1993 Group Leader), Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Water Resources Management (IWW), University of Technology, Aachen, Germany

HONORS AND AWARDS:

2012 Director's Award for Exceptional Achievement (TOUGH codes), by LBNL
2015, 2007, 1997 Outstanding Performance Award, by LBNL
1995 - 1996 Postdoctoral fellowship granted by the Humboldt-Stiftung
1995 Friedrich-Wilhelm Award for Summa Cum Laude Ph.D. Thesis
1995 Borchers Award for Summa Cum Laude Ph.D. Thesis
1994 - 1995 Postdoctoral fellowship granted by the DAAD
1989 Research-fellowship granted by the DAAD
1989 Springorum Award for Summa Cum Laude M.Sc.
1989 Hünnebeck Award for best Master Thesis
since 1986 Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, Scholarship for Excellent Students

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Birkholzer has over 300 scientific publications, more than 90 of which are in peer-reviewed journals, in addition to numerous research reports.